



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Updates on DEL Initiatives

**ECEAP Directors Meeting
April 16, 2010**

*Kids' potential,
our purpose*

www.del.wa.gov



A few DEL Initiatives/Happenings...



- DEL Partnerships and Collaboration Division
- Early Learning Plan
- State Advisory Council application
- PreK-3rd grade initiatives

DEL Partnerships & Collaboration Division



- ECEAP
- Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
- Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT)
- Parent Support and Engagement Initiatives

Early Learning Plan...Next Steps



- Timeline— September 1, 2010
- Outreach/Community Engagement efforts
- ELP Toolkit
- DRAFT ELP revisions/additions
 - Numeracy
 - Licensing/Subsidy
 - Infrastructure

State Advisory Council (SAC)- ARRA funding



- Federal ARRA grant for states to implement an Early Childhood Advisory Council
- Governor to designate ELAC as the Washington “SAC”
- Council purpose: to develop high quality early childhood system and to ensure statewide collaboration and coordination
- Washington is eligible for \$1.5 million
- Funds to be used over three-year period
- Must contribute a 70% state match (approx. \$3.5 million)
- Requires some new membership on ELAC

State Advisory Council (SAC)

Some Key Responsibilities



- Conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment (including assessment of availability of Pre-K services for low-income children)
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination
- Develop recommendations for increasing participation of children in existing programs (Federal, State, child care, etc.)
- Develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development
- Make recommendations regarding improvements to our ELD Benchmarks

State Advisory Council

Activities to-date in WA



- DEL working with consultant team to develop application
- Convened State Advisory Council (SAC) Task Force to provide expertise and input
- Building an application that aligns and supports the Early Learning Plan
- Begin to work with National Governors Association (NGA) on Technical Assistance efforts
- Plan to submit: April/May 2010

State Advisory Council

Key Focus Areas for WA



- **Governance**
- **Professional Development (incl. QRIS)**
- **Early Learning and Development Benchmarks**
- **WaKIDS** (Washington's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment pilot project)

Pre-K-3rd



- Why Pre-K-3rd and what is it?
- National efforts
- Pre-K-3rd in Washington State



What is Pre-K-3rd?



- The continuum of learning that transcends the traditional boundaries of Pre-school (learning-based programs children experience before they enter school) and the early grades (K-3).*

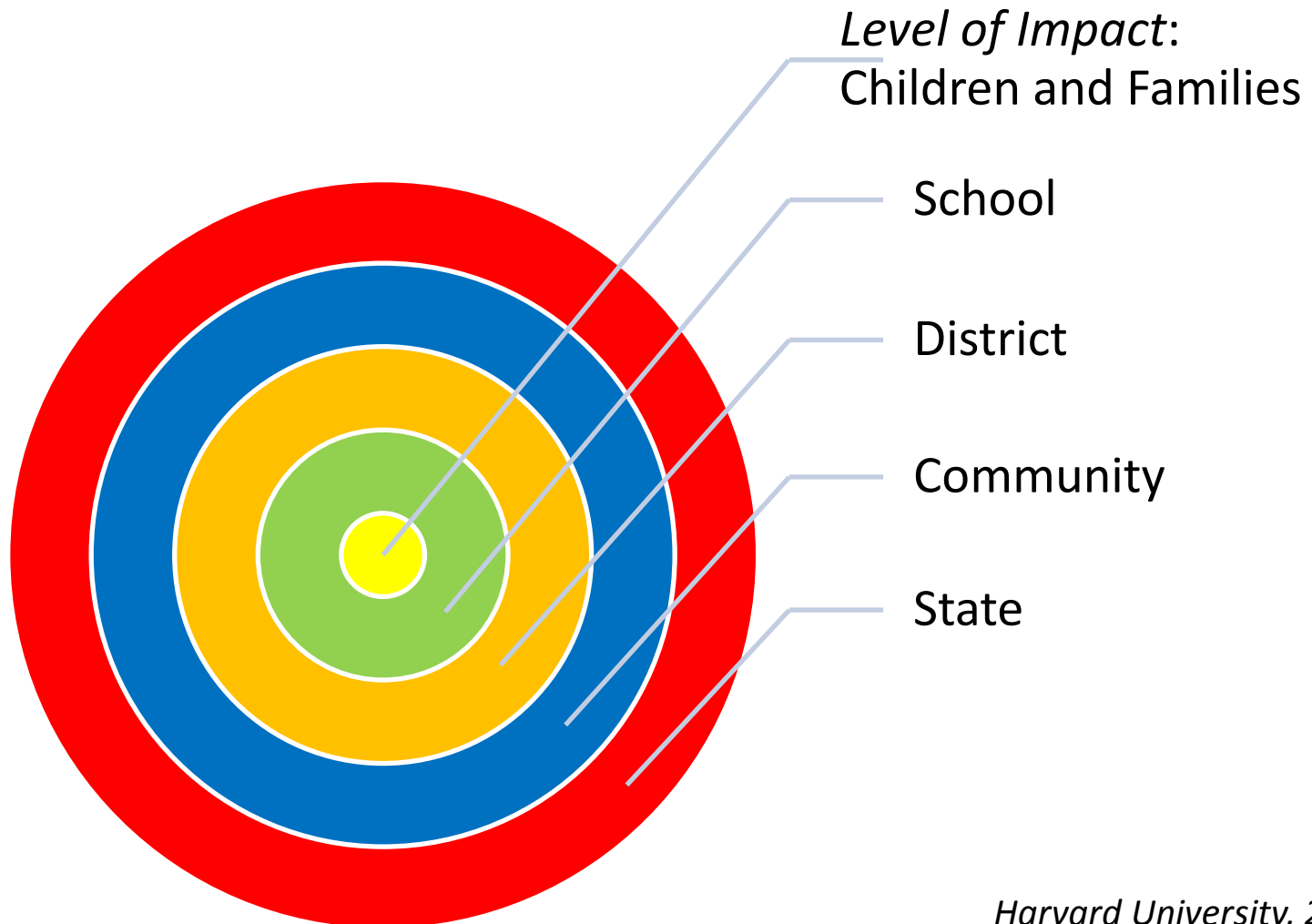
**Kristie Kauerz, Harvard University, 2010*

Why Pre-K-3rd?



- Prevention of social, emotional, cognitive, and health issues/concerns
- Develop strong language and literacy skills
- Develop social and emotional resilience
- Establish patterns of engagement (child, family, and community) in school and learning
- Close early achievement gaps
- Reduce “fade-out effect”

Levels of Pre-K-3rd effort



Harvard University, 2010

Pre-K-3rd- National Movement



- Harvard University Pre-K-3rd Project
- Foundation for Child Development
- Pre-K-3rd Framework (Coffman and others)
- DHHS/ACF and Dept. of Education
“Early Learning Interdepartmental Initiative”
- Federal funding opportunities (Race to the Top, Investing in Innovation, etc.)

Pre-K-3rd- Washington State



- Bremerton School District (Lighthouse Project)
- Gates Foundation- Leadership in Early Learning grantees
- Harvard University/Kristie Kauerz Partnership
- ESD/CCR&R– MOU
- Early Learning Plan—state-level efforts